

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**In re Application of:
Bates et al.**

APR 01 2004

Serial No.: 09/592,308

Group Art Unit: 2176

Confirmation No.: 7379

Examiner: Smith, P.

Filed: June 13, 2000

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For: Method and Apparatus for Providing Spelling Analysis

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FAX
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of Examiner Peter Smith on the date below:

April 1, 2004
Date

Gen. G. McClellan

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 31, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated December 31, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 31, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/IBM/2K/0014/GGM for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.